



Odin Shafer,
p.7



Farmers Market,
p.16

Greenbelter Commemorated As Cheerful, Helpful and Kind

by Melissa Sites



PHOTO BY CJ SCOTES

A candlelight vigil May 3 in Roosevelt Center honors the memory of Danny Abebe, who counted among his many friends practically everyone who shopped at the Co-op, where he was known to ask not just for your member number, but how you were. And for perhaps the fastest grocery checkout technique along the East coast.

Several dozen people turned up on a rainy Sunday evening at Buddy Attick Park to celebrate Danny Abebe and to remember his life.

Daniel Negussie Abebe was born in Volgograd, Russia, on March 23, 1990, to a Russian mother, Valentina Belaineh, and

an Ethiopian father, Negussie Abebe. Danny came to this country in 1992 with his mother, and the family became naturalized citizens. After attending Duval High School, Danny worked at various retail and service jobs, including the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and the New Deal Café.

Danny was exceptionally tall at 6 feet 6 inches. He was a good basketball player. “He had one of

See DANNY, page 6

Economic Coordinator Liggins’ Plans Help Change the World

by Lauren Brielle Moses

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

During a time when national security, healthcare and race relations are of huge concern to most Americans, the push for advocacy of small businesses has the ability to shift the mindset from what is viewed as negative to a positive.

At least Greenbelt’s first economic development coordinator believes so. Charise Liggins, who was hired on November 29, has always hoped and dreamed of changing the world. To be more

specific, she has spent many years focusing on the change that she wants to see in the world.

“Major change oftentimes starts at a very local level,” Liggins said.

Liggins came to Greenbelt from New York, where she received a bachelor’s degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing from Pace University and a master of science in nonprofit management at The New School. She began her career working in the private sector, managing marketing campaigns, but said at some point she began contemplating, once again, how to be a part of changing the world.

See LIGGINS, page 12



PHOTO BY CHARISE LIGGINS

Charise Liggins

Budget 2019

Council Talks Public Works’ Broad Portfolio, Budget Needs

by James Giese

It is difficult to determine exactly how much money the Public Works Department spends. The department directly administers seven separate budgets grouped together under the Public Works section of the City of Greenbelt budget: administration, equipment maintenance, street maintenance, street cleaning, waste collection and disposal, city cemetery and maintenance of Roosevelt Center. But the department also is responsible for maintaining parks, which is under the Parks and Recreation section of the city budget. It is also responsible for overseeing capital expenditures for the city’s infrastructure accounted for in four separate capital fund budgets. On top of that, the department is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the Municipal Building, the Community Center, the Police Station, the two Recreation Centers, the Animal Shelter, police vehicles and other motor equipment used by other

city departments, the expenditures for which are accounted in those department budgets.

In total, the department is responsible for city expenses approximating \$10 million and accounts for over 25 percent of total city budgeted expenditures. For the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget submitted by City Manager Nicole Ard, the department is requesting a budget increase of five percent over the Fiscal Year 2019 adopted budget.

Public Works Director Jim Sterling reviewed the department’s budget with the Greenbelt City Council at its April 17 work-session. Joining him were key staff members Brian Kim, assistant director of operations; Brian Townsend, assistant director of parks; Luisa Robles, sustainability coordinator; and Jason Martin, environmental coordinator.

High Tech

The greater demands placed

See BUDGET, page 10

Middle School Debate Team Competes, Wins National Honors

by Theresa Diffendal



PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

Becoming well-informed on immigration policy and issues propelled GMS students, front, from left: Alexandra Clarke, Isabel Ramirez, Chloe Mshana and (not pictured) Christione Johnson to second- and third-place awards at the Middle School Urban Debate League National Tournament April 13-14. Front, second from right, on his third year as debate coach is Cesar Fortuna, a reading and language arts teacher at GMS. David Trigaux, program director for the Washington Urban Debate League is on the far right. The City Council commended their academic achievements at its regular meeting on April 23.

Two pairs from the Greenbelt Middle School Debate Team won big at the Middle School Urban Debate National Tournament in Washington, D.C., April 13 and 14, claiming second and third place overall while also picking up two of the top five speaker awards.

Alexandra Clarke and Christione Johnson, as well as Isabel Ramirez and Chloe Mshana paired to debate topics related to the United States’ relations and actions concerning Venezuela through eight rounds of the two-day tournament.

During each round the debat-

ers were required to argue both the affirmative and negative sides of the topic through speeches crafted from months of study and preparation.

In a debate, constructive speeches are presented first where

See DEBATE, page 9

What Goes On

Sunday, May 12
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Farmers Market Opens
Monday, May 13
8 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, May 15
7:30 p.m. Final Budget Review, Community Center
Friday, May 17
6:30 a.m. Bike to Work Day

Letters to the Editor

In Memoriam

I am saddened by the loss of friend, Danny. In his presence, I knew life as a gentle giant, thoughtful, creative, talented, ability to connect with others, an integral part of our community, a kind heart, compassionate, a sweet soul, caring, a good man.

With a heavy heart,
Lil Dan Celdran

Gail Phillips

Friends and family gathered on Sunday, May 5, to both mourn and celebrate the life of longtime Greenbelt resident Gail Phillips.

I wish to thank the women of Mishkan Torah for a beautifully organized memorial service. I also thank the Rabbi for his lovely singing of Hebrew prayers. The many personal testimonials gave witness to Gail's life of kindness, friendship and service. She will be remembered by many for her gentle yet feisty spirit and her love for others.

We love you Gail! You left us too soon!

Marguerite Baker

Concerns About Maglev

I am concerned about the impact the proposed maglev will have on the environment. The Chesapeake Bay has been undergoing a multiyear cleanup and is not showing signs of revival. How will the damage from the maglev project effect the bay, the Anacostia and Potomac rivers as well as the animals and plants of the Patuxent Wildlife Preserve? These are national treasures and I am sure that run-off caused by the maglev will cause irreparable harm.

I am concerned about the effect the building of this project will have on our health. The noise and air pollution will accelerate the difficulties experienced by anyone with asthma or COPD resulting in confinement to his or her closed homes. Will the quality of our drinking water be damaged? What will 200 dump trucks of dirt per day do to the structure of our homes and roads (damage, congestion)?

These questions and concerns should be answered if an environmental impact study is completed and given to the people of the Washington/Baltimore area before

a final decision is made regarding the maglev.

Gail Richards

Go See Honey Trap

It turns out radiation testing can be serious fun in the right light.

The Honey Trap takes a tale of intrigue, lust and redemption through a maze of dialog to a fairly clear fruition. Last Friday's show unfairly found a number of unfilled seats. See the world premiere of this timely play this weekend and support live theater at the Greenbelt Arts Center.

Rick Coleman

Three Stooges Films For Film Registry?

There will be a free showing of four short films titled The Three Stooges vs. Adolf Hitler on Tuesday, May 14, at 8 p.m. at the Old Greenbelt Theatre. The films are You Nazty Spy, I'll Never Heil Again, Back From The Front and Gents Without Cents. The total running time is approximately 80 minutes. I am asking for the public's help in nominating You Nazty Spy to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress (loc.gov).

You Nazty Spy deserves to be included on the National film Registry (think Hall of Fame) because of its historical and cultural significance. 1) It was the first Hollywood comedy released to mock Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. It was released in January 1940, nine months before Charlie Chaplin's The Great Dictator, at the height of the German American Bund, a pro-Nazi Germany organization. 2) The stars of the film, Moe Howard, Larry Fine and Curly Howard, were all Jewish. 3) The characters portrayed by The Three Stooges were Jewish. The script includes Yiddish words and phrases, an in-joke to Jewish audiences. 4) The film was so successful that a sequel was made, I'll Never Heil Again.

You Nazty Spy is full of verbal and visual gems. It covers so many things: a paper hanger becoming dictator, storm troopers, a peace conference, an astrologer (wonderfully played by Lorna Gray) and much more. Moe Howard impersonates Hitler

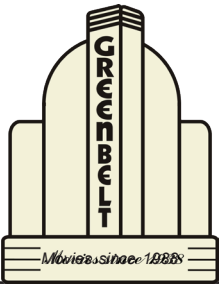
See LETTERS, page 9

Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web
greenbeltnewsreview.com
para ver artículos en español.



See our website,
greenbeltnewsreview.com,
for articles in Spanish.



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members Always \$6.50!
Members' Kids Free!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student \$8

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES
May 10th - May 16th

RAFIKI
(NR)(Swahili w/English subtitles)(2019)(83 mins)
Fri. 2:30, 7:30 pm
Sat. 2:30, 5:00 pm
Sun. 2:30 pm
Mon. 7:30 pm
Tues. 5:00 pm
Wed. 2:30, 7:30 pm
Thurs. 5:00 pm

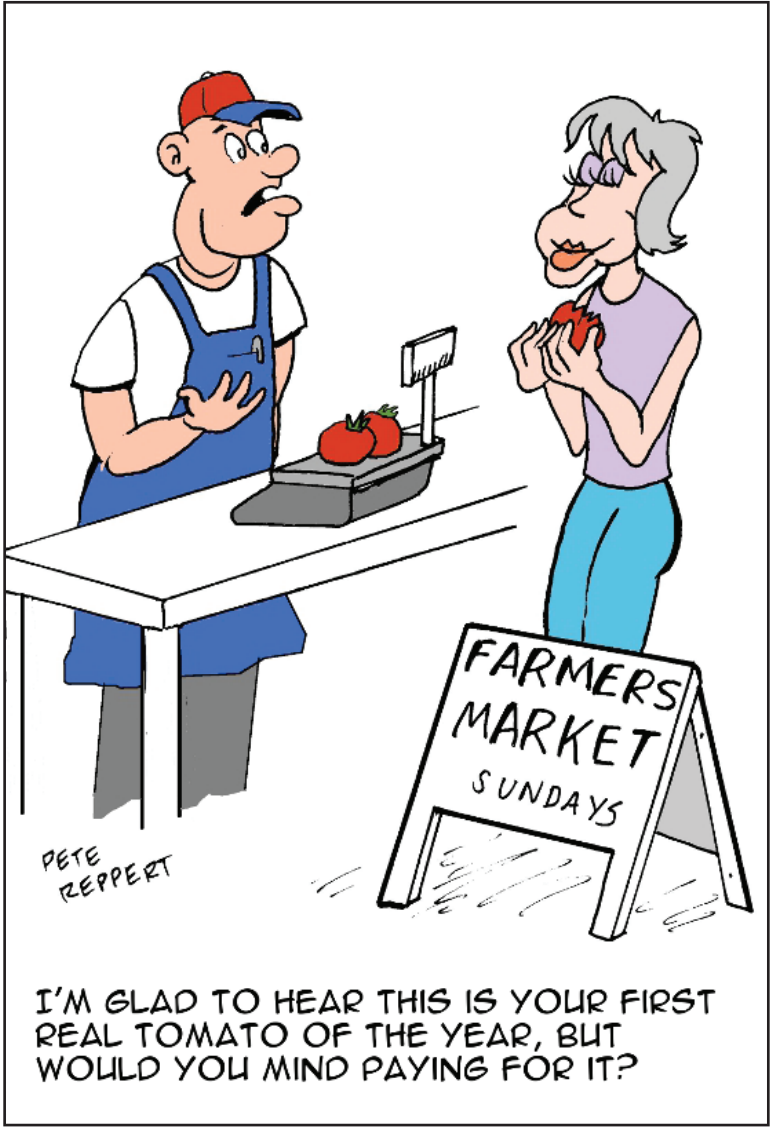
RED JOAN
(R)(CC)(DVS)
(2019)(110 mins)
Fri. 5:00 pm
Sat. 7:30 pm
Sun. 5:00 pm
Mon. 5:00 pm
Tues. 2:30 pm
Wed. 5:00 pm
Thurs. 7:30 pm

SONG OF THE SEA
(PG)(2014)(94 mins)
Sat. 11:00 am

DEGAS: PASSION FOR PERFECTION
(NR)(2018)(85 mins)
Sun. 8:00 pm
Mon. 1:00 pm

STORYTIME ON SCREEN
Mon. 10:30 am - FREE!

THE THREE STOOGES-SHORTS
(NR)(1940)(72 mins)
Tues. 8:00 pm - FREE



I'M GLAD TO HEAR THIS IS YOUR FIRST
REAL TOMATO OF THE YEAR, BUT
WOULD YOU MIND PAYING FOR IT?

LOOKING FOR PROOFERS

To proofread the paper
on Wednesday afternoons

Email editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com
or call Sue at 301-474-2219.



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Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.

On Screen

Love in a Hostile Land

Opening this Friday, May 10, Rafiki tells a tender story of friendship and first love between two teenage girls, the smart and tomboyish Kena and the well-to-do and stylish Ziki. It's set against a backdrop of family rivalry and religious bigotry in Kenya, where homosexuality remains illegal. The first Kenyan film to be shown at the Cannes Film Festival, it was banned in the country shortly before it was screened. The two girls meet because their fathers are running against each other for political office in their neighborhood in a bustling ghetto on the outskirts of Nairobi. "The film's unromanticized but vibrantly specific sense of place is among its most appealing assets," said one critic. The chemistry between the two actresses gives their mutual infatuation an emotional intensity even though the love scenes remain fairly innocent. When the nature of the relationship between Kena and Ziki becomes apparent, the community turns against them, leading to violence and the end of their relationship. In spite of this, Rafiki, which means "Friend" in Swahili, wraps up the story on a hopeful note.

Not rated, Swahili with English subtitles. Running time: 83 minutes.

Red Joan continues playing this week, rated R. Running time: 110 minutes.

- Sandy Rodgers

Community Events

Thoughtful Discussion Meets at Youth Center

Trust your instincts! Go with your gut! What pops into your head is probably right! These are platitudes encountered often. How accurate are they? Should you trust your instincts or is that merely your hindbrain overtaking the rational parts of the brain? How reliable is a gut feeling as a decision-making tool?

The MakerSpace thoughtful discussion group will be meeting at the Youth Center on Tuesday, May 14, to try to figure out how much we should rely on our instincts. All those whose guts lead them to want to explore the topic are welcome to attend.

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will meet on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads. The group offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership. For more information call 240-542-8625.

Active Parenting Workshops at GES

Two workshops for active parents of Greenbelt Elementary School students will be held in the school’s Media Center at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, May 21 and June 11.

On May 21, a workshop on the parent/child cycle will deal with handling anger using the Feelings, Limits, Alternatives, Consequences (FLAC) method.

The June 11 workshop features seven smart things active parents can do to help their children succeed in school.

GES parents are asked to RSVP via email to Kristin.Cahalan@pgcps.org.

Light refreshments will be served and babysitting will be provided upon request with RSVP.

Utopia Film Festival Seeks Volunteers

The Utopia Film Festival, now in its 15th year, is beginning to screen films from around the world for inclusion in the festival. Volunteer to assist in screening films for this multicultural event. Get to know the community and neighbors and celebrate the diversity that is Greenbelt and the world. Utopia will be held mid-November this year. Films are screened Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. between now and September. For more information, call 301-466-9524.

Tuckman Exhibits At GAC Gallery

Local artist Diane Tuckman’s silk screen art, wearables and photography are on exhibit through Sunday, May 12 at the Greenbelt Arts Center gallery. Access to the gallery is limited to times when a performance is taking place, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

May 18 Tennis Social

On Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Greenbelt Tennis Association (GTA) will sponsor an informal tennis social at Braden Field courts. The social is free and all skill levels are welcome for friendly doubles and singles play, no partner needed. Ready to learn or re-learn? Try adult/teen beginner court. Balls and light refreshments provided and rackets are made available. Participants can sign up for GTA membership at the event. Membership forms are also available from GTA’s website (greenbelt.com/tennis).

GHI Notes

Thursday, May 9, 7:30 p.m., GHI Annual Membership Meeting, Community Center.

Friday, May 10, 7 to 10 a.m. and 5 to 8 p.m., GHI Elections, GHI Administration Building.

Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m., Long Range Planning Committee Meeting, GHI Office; 7 p.m., Legislative and Government Affairs Committee Meeting, Board Room.

Wednesday, May 15, 6 p.m., Bicycle Committee Meeting, GHI Lobby; 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting, Board Room.

Thursday, May 16, 7:45 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room.

Friday, May 17, office closed. Emergency maintenance service available at 301-474-6011.

View the Moon At Star Party

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday evening, May 11 (an International Astronomy Day), at the City Observatory located at Northway Fields. Attendees can expect to view the Moon through the observatory telescope with eyepieces and, later in the evening, galaxies currently high in the sky, with the aid of the astronomical camera. As always, visitors are welcome to set up their own telescopes on the hill.

Observing will begin at around 9 p.m. and continue for two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.



Museum Seeks Volunteer Docents

Do you like learning about Greenbelt history? Are you looking for a way to give back to the community? The Greenbelt Museum invites Greenbelters to a docent information session on Sunday, May 19 at 5 p.m. at 10-A Crescent Rd. The museum is in an exciting phase of growth and visitation is increasing. A small commitment of time each month will help share Greenbelt’s history. Training will be provided. For more information, contact the Education and Volunteer Coordinator, Sheila Maffay-Tuthill, at 240-542-2064 or education@greenbeltmuseum.org.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

All meals, which provide at least one-third of Recommended Dietary Allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of May 13 are as follows:

Monday, May 13: Baked chicken with country captain sauce, brown rice, broccoli, wheat bread, fresh fruit, apple juice.

Tuesday, May 14: Hamburger, sliced cheese, crispy cubed potatoes, Harvard beets, whole wheat bun, diced pears, cranberry juice.

Wednesday, May 15: Pork roast with apricot mustard sauce, macaroni and cheese, green beans, whole wheat bread, tropical fruit, grape juice.

Thursday, May 16: Ten-grain pollock, black eyed peas, okra and stewed tomatoes, dinner roll, fresh fruit, orange juice.

Friday, May 17: Swedish meatballs, whole grain penne pasta, sliced carrots, whole wheat bread, cinnamon applesauce, cranberry juice.



Greenbelt Unplugged Walks at Patuxent

Greenbelt Unplugged plans a leisurely stroll at the South Tract of the Patuxent Wildlife Center May 19th 1 to 3 p.m. For more information or to ride share, contact the group through their website greenbeltunplugged.org.

GIVES Seeks New Volunteers

If you’ve been looking for opportunities to serve your neighbors, the Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) can make it easy for you to join in and help. GIVES is seeking new members for this valuable organization that has served Greenbelt residents for over 20 years. The GIVES office phone is staffed to receive member requests for four hours (from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m.) every weekday, and we would like to expand into the weekend hours. If office work is not your forté, no problem. Some people just need help with some yard work, light housework, a friendly visit or a trip to the grocery store. Just accept tasks that fit your talents and schedule, on weekends, evenings or whenever your calendar allows.

If you have been wondering what you can do to give back to the community, we would love to hear from you. Call GIVES at 301-507-6580 or email givesoffice@gmail.com.

Bake Sale

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department is having its annual spring bake sale on Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Co-op ramp will be filled with lots of homemade baked goodies. Come on down and support this fundraiser.

Art Works For Wellness

Celebrate mental health month at Beltway Plaza on Saturday, May 11 from noon to 2 p.m. Self-care kits, inspirational posters, expressive painting, mask decoration and T-shirt design will be available for a personal art experience while supplies last. For more information, call 301-429-0970.

Stooges vs. Hitler Free Movie at OGT

The Three Stooges made Hitler the butt of their jokes in You Nazy Spy, showing on Tuesday, May 14 at 8 p.m. at the Old Greenbelt Theatre. Four 20-minute short 1940 films – You Nazy Spy, I’ll Never Heil Again, Back From the Front and Gents Without Cents – make up the show. The films satirized Hitler to publicize the Nazi threat, while the United States was still neutral about World War II and isolationist sentiment was prevalent.

This free show is sponsored by James William Thompson, who asks viewers to nominate You Nazy Spy for inclusion in the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress.

Food Scraps Recycling Project

Join the neighbors who already participate in hot composting at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center’s hot compost system. Keep your food scraps from creating methane at the landfill.

Training sessions are required for participants. To learn more and sign up, fill out the application available at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and Greenbelt Community Center. Online applications are at <http://tinyurl.com/GBCapp1>.



GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE:
WWW.GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

FOR INFO:
INFO@GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

301-441-8770

LAST CHANCE TO SEE

The Greenbelt Arts Center Presents
The World Premiere of
THE HONEY TRAP

Written and Directed By:
Michael C. Stepowany

April 26, 27, May 3, 4, 10, 11 - 8:00 p.m.
April 28, May 5, 12 - 2:00 p.m.

A 1957 Las Vegas, July Fourth
'Watch the Atomic Bomb' party is about to begin.
When two unexpected guests show up,
everyone's fortunes are changed forever.



The World Premiere of
THE HONEY TRAP

written and directed by
Michael C. Stepowany

May 10, 11 at 8PM

Sunday matinee:
May 12 at 2PM

Contains adult themes and is
not suitable for young
children.

Ticket prices:
\$22 General Admission,
\$20 Students/Seniors/Military,
\$12 Youth (12 & under w/ adult)

COMING SOON:
May 18 - *Declaration* - by Eleanor Roosevelt High School
June 1 - *Cabaret Night* - produced by Jeff Lesniak
June 14 - 23 - *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* - by the Rude Mechanicals
GREENBELT ARTS CENTER-123 CENTERWAY-GREENBELT, MD



NOW STREAMING LIVE
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channel-live-stream](http://www.greenbeltaccess.org/channel-live-stream)

Program Schedule
Friday May 10 - Thursday May 16

7 am	Greenbelt News Reel
8 am	Democracy Now!
9 am	Classic Film: Jack Benny <i>Buck Benny Rides Again</i> (1940)
11 am	Democracy Now!
12 pm	Greenbelt News Reel
1 pm	Strata (Archaeology)
2 pm	Greenbelt News Reel
3 pm	Classic Film: Jack Benny <i>Buck Benny Rides Again</i> (1940)
5 pm	Strata (Archaeology)
6 pm	Greenbelt News Reel
7 pm	Democracy Now!
8 pm	Classic Film: Jack Benny <i>Buck Benny Rides Again</i> (1940)
10 pm	Democracy Now!
11 pm	Greenbelt News Reel

NOW STREAMING LIVE
[www.greenbeltaccess.org/
channel-live-stream](http://www.greenbeltaccess.org/channel-live-stream)

Check out our Channel
on Comcast 77 and
Verizon Fios 19

Our Neighbors

Condolences to the family and friends of Greenbelt pioneer Jack Maffay who died on April 30.

William Dunham, the son of Greenbelt residents Joan and David Dunham, was awarded a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School on May 3. His dissertation is Advanced Predictive Control Strategies for More Electric Aircraft. William is also a graduate of the Greenbelt Nursery School, Robert Goddard French Immersion School, Eleanor Roosevelt High School and the University of Maryland A. James Clark School of Engineering.



Dr. William Dunham is wreathed in smiles after graduating with his Ph.D.

Congratulations to Lisa Holinsworth, third-grade math/science teacher at Greenbelt Elementary School, on her nomination as Teacher of the Year in Prince George’s County. Sharing this honor was Charles Mills, math teacher, Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Three cheers to John Henry “Doc” Jones on his 91st birthday on May 6. Doc recently retired as the oldest ever Greenbelt News Review carrier. Give him a high five if you see him in the neighborhood.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.

Worship with us at

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel Centered

Sunday School	Worship Service	Evening Service
9:15 am	10:30 am	6:00 pm

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
301-474-4212
@GreenbeltBaptist

Obituaries

John W. “Jack” Maffay

John Woodruff Maffay died on the morning of April 30, 2019. Steadfast and strong, and a man of great faith, he raised five children with his beloved wife, the late Elizabeth K. Maffay. John had a lengthy and successful career as a sales executive at Xerox Corporation; later he served as vice president of Zeroid Corporation. There was always time for travel, with many international trips for work and leisure.

John was deeply involved in his community, Greenbelt. Born in New York on August 28, 1933, he was a pioneer child whose family moved in when Greenbelt was at its start. John dove into sports, scouts and his church; he was a popular young man. After meeting a beautiful German girl at the Park College Diner and marrying her soon after, John increased his civic activity and became a pillar of his community. He served as president of the Lions Club and president of Twin Pines Savings and Loan and was a member of the Labor Day Festival committee, the Greenbelt American Legion and the Knights of Columbus. He was a support to Elizabeth as she served on the Greenbelt City Council. In his later years he volunteered as a docent at the Greenbelt Museum, regaling visitors with fascinating stories of his youth in the New Deal community. He also belonged to the Terrapin Club for many years, attending all the basketball and football games of his alma mater, the University of Maryland, College Park.

John was an exceptional husband to Elizabeth, staying loyally by her side with devotion for 10 years after her debilitating stroke. They renewed their wedding vows on their 60th anniversary in the last year of her life. He was a father filled with advice and love. A hug from dad was a lovely treat and he delighted in hearing



John Maffay, pioneer resident, with his dog Jazz in 2014

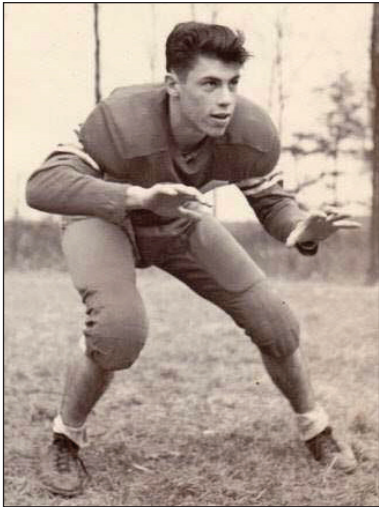


John Maffay growing up in GHI in the 40s, pictured with sisters Jill and Laurie

about everyone’s day. He was Opa to his grandchildren, attending talent shows, baseball games, recitals, plays, soccer matches and regattas to support them.

He will be missed and loved forever by his five children, Doris Freemyer (Denny), Jonathan (Chabe), Julie Erickson (Doug), Russell and Sheila Maffay-Tuthill (David), as well as six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is also survived by two loving sisters, Linda Jill Clark and Laurie Beynon.

Services will be held at St.



John Maffay, pictured in football stance, late 1940s

- Photos Courtesy of the Maffay family

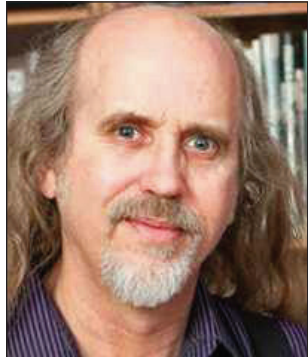
Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church in Greenbelt on May 20 at 10 a.m. After a luncheon at Grenoble Hall, there will be a brief graveside service and burial at the Greenbelt Cemetery. Donations in his name may be made to the Food Pantry at St. Hugh’s.

Celebration of Life Of Robert F. Lange

A burial service for Robert Lange will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 19, at Greenbelt Cemetery, 6300 block Ivy Lane. He grew up in Greenbelt and died in Indiana in February.

Afterward a luncheon and a Celebration of Life will be held at 12 Pinecrest Court, Greenbelt.

All are welcome. You are encouraged to wear tie-dye clothing or come as you are.



Robert Lange

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LANGE FAMILY



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

MAY 12 10 A.M.
THE HEART IS THE COMPASS - OUR ANNUAL SPRING CHOIR SERVICE
PBUUC Choir led by Music Director David Chapman; with Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; Elizabeth Porter and Jeri Holloway, Worship Associates; guest oboist, hornist, and vocalists Allison Hughes, Elizabeth Porter and Alexandra Dilley
Our amazing Paint Branch Choir will lead us in worship and music as they bring us their annual Spring Choir Service.

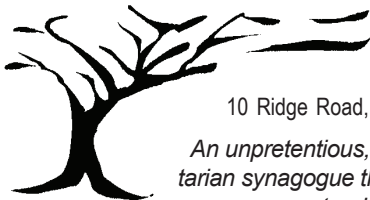
Christian Science Church

8300 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



"I will hear what God the Lord will speak" Ps. 85

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday meeting 7:30 p.m.



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
Find us on Facebook facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10 a.m.
We thrive because we believe.

Never put a period where a comma should be . . .

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

Join Us this Sunday at 10:15

Guest Preacher Mike Fekula

1 Hillside Road, Greenbelt 301-474-6171 Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322
Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe



City Information & Events

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING Municipal Building, Monday, May 13, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations
(Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Maryland Municipal League's "If I Were Mayor" District 9 Winner
- Kids To Parks Day Proclamation
- Bike to Work Day
- Memorial Day Poppy Presentation
- Legislative Wrap-Up

Public Hearing on the FY2020 Budget

Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meeting

Administrative Reports

* Committee Reports

- Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) Report #2019-01 (Comments on and edits to the 2017 Sustainable Land Care Policy)
- Arts Advisory Board (AAB) Report #19-5 (FY20 Budget Request for AAB - Sponsored Arts Networking Events)

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- General Orders on Fixed Assets/Weapons Disposal
- AARP Age-Friendly Community Network
- National Film Registry nomination for You Nazty Spy
- Greenbelt Co-Op: Rays on the Roof
- * Reappointments to Advisory Groups
- Council Reports
- Council Activities

SCHEDULING OF FUTURE MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

MEETINGS FOR MAY 13-17

Monday, May 13 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. *Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and Streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

Tuesday, May 14 at 3:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE** at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Room 130. *On the Agenda: Crime Prevention, Youth Advisory encouragement letters to neighboring municipalities, Meet & Greet dates, Voter Registration dates, Liaison Reports and Renee Battle-Brooks – Human Trafficking discussion*

Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD** at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Pedestrian and Bicycle Subcommittee Update and Update on Planning Projects*

Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30pm, **FINAL BUDGET REVIEW** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd. *Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996, and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

Friday, May 17 at 6:00pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent. *On the Agenda: Motion to Designate Polling Places, Voting Machines, Absentee and Early Voting, and Election Judges*

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE



CLIMB WORK TRUCKS!

RIDE THE BUCKET TRUCK!



DEMONSTRATIONS & INFORMATION TABLES



Saturday, May 18
10:30am-1:30pm
Public Works Facility
555 Crescent Road

REFRESHMENTS, TREE TOURS, FREE PLANTINGS AND MORE!

Celebration of Spring

Saturday, May 18
2:00-6:00pm

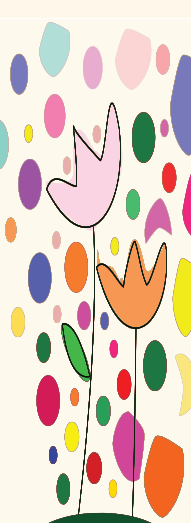
Springhill Lake Recreation Center
6101 Cherrywood Lane



Come enjoy arts and crafts, music, inflatable games, refreshments, community information tables and a magic show with Greenbelt Recreation and your neighbors and friends.

Children and parents alike will be delighted on this fun filled day.

Please call the weather information hotline, 301-474-0646, the morning of the event for updated event status.



OFFICIAL NOTICE
The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a
PUBLIC HEARING
To be held during the Regular Meeting of Council
Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 8:00 p.m.

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND EACH OF THE OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY.

This is the second of two Public Hearings on the budget. Public attendance and participation are encouraged. All citizens of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and to ask questions concerning the entire budget.

Copies of the proposed budget may be examined at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Rd., during normal operating hours. The budget is also posted on the City Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/budget>. For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Bonita Anderson,
City Clerk



Greenbelt Recreation
Invites you!
Free Friday Fun!

Roller Skate!
Springhill Lake Recreation Center
6101 Cherrywood Lane
May 17, 2019
5:00pm-7:00pm

Ages: 6-14 years and parents/guardians
Roller-skates provided free of charge or bring your own.
Call 301-397-2212 or 301-397-2200 for more information.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, and Youth Advisory Committee. Info: 301-474-8000

HAVE YOU DISCOVERED GREENBELT CITY ROUNDUP YET?

Visit the City of Greenbelt's new blog at greenbeltcityroundup.com and see what the city was up to over the past week!

Follow @cityofgreenbelt on Twitter and Facebook!

CITY OF GREENBELT NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE



The City Council of the City of Greenbelt proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2019, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 1.75%, from \$1,975,095,471 to \$2,009,637,243
2. If the City of Greenbelt, Maryland maintains the current tax rate of \$0.8125 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 1.75%, resulting in \$280,652 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.7985, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.8275 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 3.63% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$582,097 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax increase will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, in the City Council Room, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 for further information.

Heartfelt Remarks for Danny Abebe At Roosevelt Center Informal Ceremony

by Rick Ransom

I noted the item about a memorial for Danny Abebe at Roosevelt Center in last week's edition of the News Review. I dropped by to pay my respects. I was treated to a beautiful and moving tribute to a young man of 29 who was loved and appreciated by more than a few in the central part of Greenbelt, many in their twenties and younger judging from the participants.

The informal ceremony was led by one of Danny's mates, a fellow named Dane, who said Danny had been his best friend since junior high (middle) school. He did an excellent job in coaxing many of those in attendance to speak. They painted in strokes both broad and fine the portrait of a young man who cared. Two themes were oft repeated: that he was a good and beautiful person and that he was there for you when you needed him.

You may have seen Danny around town if not met him. He worked at Party City, K-Mart, Co-op food store and lately at the New Deal Café. Many of his co-workers spoke, and several older adults remarked on his caring service as a worker and a neighbor. One said he was wonderful to her after her husband died, and that he was wonderful to his own three children.

They were actually not his three children by birth, but the offspring of his girlfriend Jessamyn. According to others with whom I spoke, he was indeed wonderful to the kids. Other friends noted that Danny "always wore a smile" and "looked out for all." Several noted that he had been a willing shoulder to cry on and that he had helped them get through a difficult time. He seemed to show up just when you needed someone to listen.

It was a very moving service, perhaps even more so for its informality. I have been to far too many services where the subject's name was hardly spoken at all. This was not one of those. You did not have to know Danny to get a sense of his importance to those gathered. He was clearly a positive influence, and those are cherished in this trouble-filled life that can be particularly bewildering to our younger community.

You may go to the website "gf.me/u/sixi47" to learn a few more details of Danny's family and life and to contribute to help defray the cost of his funeral for his family.



PHOTO BY VIJAY PARMESHWARAN

Greenbelt chalk artist Vijay Parmeshwaran left this memorial to Danny Abebe outside the Co-op April 30, posting it on social media as a thank-you to the "gentle giant" who "made a positive impact on so many lives here."



PHOTO BY LEONARD WALLACE

On Sunday, May 5, a crowd gathered in Buddy Attick Park to celebrate the life of Danny Abebe. They said Danny's name as the picture was taken.

DANNY continued from page 1

the nicest threes – it looked ugly, but it always went in," his friend Tariq Hanley remembered.

Several Greenbelters offered their time and talents to help the community celebrate Danny's memory. Leonard Wallace placed a notice about Danny's death on his display at Realty 1. Vijay Parmeshwaran made a chalk heart on Roosevelt Center by the Co-op, where people left flowers and candles after Friday's candlelight vigil. Alicia Deligianis, at the New Deal Café, made a portrait of Danny on a poster listing the times of commemorative events. Aaron Mengel, chef and manager at Generous Joe's, helped to coordinate a memorial potluck on Sunday evening at Buddy Attick Park, to which many attendees contributed.

Danny was well known around Greenbelt as a cashier at the Co-op, and for his signature way of ringing up the groceries with a rapid-fire aim of the handheld scanner. Customers always wanted to be in his line, several people agreed, because of his speed and efficiency.

Co-worker Joanne Ward remembered the times that Danny would help with her yard and garden work. "He'd always say, no, don't pay me. He loved everybody, always smiling. I'd see him giving people \$20 if they didn't have enough to pay for their groceries."

Dane Callender was a longtime friend of Danny, whom he met in the sixth grade. They enjoyed listening to rock and going to concerts, especially Coheed and Cambria, whom they saw in concert five times. Danny loved reading fantasy novels, including Harry Potter (he was a Slytherin), and he loved dragons and games like Final Fantasy where he enjoyed playing villains to defeat his friends.

Danny was admired for his cheerful and hospitable nature. "He would open his doors and give you a blanket and a spot on the couch," said Callender. "He opened me up to being more social, and he always enjoyed himself. He taught me a lot about interacting and helping people. He would offer to sweep the floors and clean the tables at Joe's at closing time and not ask for anything in return. I stopped being surprised at some of the things he would offer to do because that was just Danny," Callender added.

Danny is survived by his parents, uncles, cousins and younger brother Alexander Abebe. Donations to help pay for the funeral costs and headstone may be sent to gofundme.com/donation039s-for-danny039s-funeral. As of Sunday evening, \$3,300 had been raised.

Meditation Sessions at Mishkan Torah Offer Peace, Serenity

by Katrina Boverman

In a world where many of us often attempt to do more, do it better and do it more quickly, the Mishkan Torah Sisterhood has quietly offered summer guided meditation classes to Greenbelters for the past four years. The synagogue itself is a wonderful peaceful setting that is welcoming to all. Class sizes have ranged from eight to 19 people, from teenagers to senior citizens. All attendees have reported a quieting of their bodies, minds and spirits, a deepening of inner stillness and a better ability to reconnect with themselves. They have described feeling more peaceful, serene, relaxed, mindful and present,

both during and in between the classes. Common experiences outside of the classes have been for people to have greater ease falling asleep and more patience during challenging times. By sponsoring these classes and providing a place to meet, a difference has been made in people's lives by having opportunities to slow down, become quiet, go within and experience a bit more peace. Another series is being sponsored again this summer, starting in June. For more information contact Katrina Boverman at Katrinaboverman@yahoo.com or 301-345-4342.



Community Hospices Holds Discussion

The Washington Home and Community Hospices – Maryland will meet on Tuesday, May 21 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. This month's theme is strategies for resolving guilt and anger after the loss of a loved one. For further information, call Bereavement Counselor Margaret Capurso at 301-560-6002

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. **301-345-5111**

GREENBRIAR & GLEN OAKS SPRING YARD SALE

Saturday, May 18, 2019
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Hosted at Greenbriar Community Center
7600 Hanover Parkway
301-441-1096

The event will take place RAIN or SHINE!

Greenbelter Designs Games Used By Millions of Players

by Nora Eckert

When Odin Shafer was young, he would spend hours in his room dreaming up elaborate games and creating characters to fill them.

“He’d just sit and write all of these philosophies of the different types of people and game structures, and that [was] his idea of a good time,” his mother Suzanne St. Cyr noted.

Today, the former Greenbelt resident still spends his time building complex worlds, but his art now reaches millions of people through his video games. A senior designer and writer at Riot Games, he creates new characters and writes for League of Legends, an online multiplayer video game that has spawned a graphic novel series. The game has reached as many as 27 million players daily since its 2009 release, according to a report from Riot Games.

Art has always been a part of Shafer’s life. His mother and father were both artists: the former worked in mediums including oil on 3D canvas, and the latter in wood sculpture.

“He grew up surrounded by it. Fifty percent of the house was filled with stuff we were working on,” St. Cyr said, adding that occasionally when Shafer would have friends over, he would point to parts of his mom’s paintings and whisper to his friend that he had added his own touches without his mother’s knowledge. But, of course, she was never fooled.

Shafer was a risk taker from a young age. When he and his mom moved to New York after his parents’ divorce, he decided once to forego the bus ride home from his Staten Island school and hike through the woods. It took a three-hour police search to find the lost and adventurous fourth grader.

He continued to take risks when he moved to Greenbelt with his mother. When he came to class at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, his hair dyed blue and green with a red stripe pointed towards his eye, the principal told him to fix it as soon as possible. Faced with the option of dying it back to his normal color or not walking the stage to receive an academic award, Shafer chose the latter.

“Even today. If an award can only go to someone who looks or acts a particular way – I don’t want it,” he said.

It’s a lesson that stuck with him over time.

“He continued to break the mold. It didn’t change his point of view, he just recognized that’s how life is,” said St. Cyr. “When you choose to do out of the norm, you actually have to work harder than anyone else for people to overlook that you’re doing that.”

Part of that mentality allows Shafer to create characters that surprise players and break traditional molds. He spent months creating Allaoi, the Kraken Priestess, who he said was an unusual character because she is not tamed by a male god, as is the case in the Judeo-Christian religions he studied in creating her.

While developing her, he contemplated fate, death and religion, elements the average teen-



Odin Shafer

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SHAFER FAMILY

ager might not pick up on when they’re playing the game, but a process Shafer takes seriously in creating full-fledged characters.

“Most of what I actually do is try to make the world make some sort of sense, or at least make it interesting, and the characters be vivid. The world serves the vividness of the characters and the vividness of the person,” he said, adding, “You don’t go to the gelato place to buy vanilla.”

His dynamic background – the handful of years he spent in Greenbelt living on Woodland Way were the longest he had stayed anywhere consecutively before high school – exposed him to different viewpoints and surroundings that he said made him a better storyteller.

While he frequented the Cop, which reminds him of “some small-town grocery from socialist Sweden,” or skipped school to spend time by the lake, he soaked in the unique aspects of the town.

“It definitely was formative on some of my outlook, Greenbelt being such a weird contrast. Really Old Greenbelt. It’s so liberal and green, but it’s also weirdly sometimes racist and xenophobic to outsiders. But it’s an outsider of Old Greenbelt. Like you can walk out of Old Greenbelt and suddenly someone is not a local.”

The contrast of this small-town feel while being just minutes away from a major metro and NASA was an interesting juxtaposition of worlds for young Shafer to observe.

“Strangely being sort of a suburban environment, it feels like something that if it were in a television show, you would be like ‘Wait. A town can’t have that much crazy stuff.’”

Shafer would know what makes for good TV, as his previous credits include being a writer on the show The Walking Dead.

Shafer now lives with his wife Moe Moe Lwin and 7-year-old daughter Freya in Los Angeles. As much as his time in Greenbelt shaped him, his work also left an impact on the community.

In 2015 at Eleanor Roosevelt

High School, some of the students began a League of Legends club where they would talk strategy behind the game, watch professional gamers play online and discuss newly-released characters.

“Part of it was just the camaraderie,” said Alex Kinder, advisor for the now-defunct club and a science teacher at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. “It was nice for them to find people who had similar interests and build friendships.”

When he heard of the club, Shafer laughed and said he probably would have participated had he still been in high school when the game was released.

For someone who said he strongly doesn’t believe in fate or destiny, the thought that high schoolers in the place where he grew up are playing a game he now helps develop makes him “actually uncomfortable.”

It’s just one of the strange realities he’s learned to accept in his work and life, and it’s something his time in Greenbelt prepared him for.

“A lot of my job is about processing strangeness,” he said. “That’s something I learned from Greenbelt.”

Nora Eckert is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.



Greenbelter Odin Shafer writes for the game League of Legends.

Annual Green Man Festival Celebrates Mother Earth

by Richard McMullin

The weekend of May 11 and 12 marks the 15th time that the Green Man came out of the woods to visit the Roosevelt Center and bring attention to the interplay between humankind and the natural world. This year the festival honors Mother Earth; together Gaia and the Green Man say, “We are one.” Along with numerous purveyors of handmade natural goods, many groups that focus on environmental issues and awareness of nature, including the Prince George’s Audubon Society, will be there to provide deeper understanding and knowledge about the natural world. Take some time to talk to these neighbors and find out what part you can play in making our local environment sustainable.

New faces this year include Greenbelt Baha’i Community, Fairy Garden Treasures by Petal Echo, Harmony Collaborative for Holistic Health, Fairy Hair by Claire, the Ethical Earthling Society and the recycled treasures by In-jeen-yuhs. Many crafters will be returning from last year. With pottery, jewelry, woodwork, tie dye, clothing, accessories, soaps and scents, there is something for everyone, especially Mom. Kids can enjoy handicrafts, face painting, hair ribbons, temporary tattoos, building stick animals and making a fairy garden. Bubbles

and sidewalk chalk will add to the joy.

Saturday’s lineup on the festival stage includes the Community Drum Circle by Trevor Siegel from 10 a.m. to noon, KIVA from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Susan Jones and the Circadian Rhythm Section at 2:15 p.m., Tower Green at 3:30 p.m. and Ayrehert at 4:45 p.m. On Sunday, Katy Gaughan shares World Drums! from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and calls upon the dancers in all of us. The Gliders take the stage at 1:30 p.m., followed by the Homespun Ceilidh Band at 2:30 p.m. and a final drum jam at 3:45 p.m. In addition, the New Deal Café hosts special acts including Fractal Cat on Friday evening and wrapping up the weekend with the Jolly Llama on Sunday evening.

Bring a folding chair or grab a seat on one of the picnic benches and share a spring day with neighbors. To learn more, visit greenmanfestival.org/index.do.

The Green Man Festival is a project of the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the health of all who share the Chesapeake watershed environment, with help from the City of Greenbelt and funds from the Friends Meeting.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

On Monday, April 29, fire trucks and EMTs from the Greenbelt and Beltsville Volunteer Fire Departments surprised people enjoying Buddy Attick Park. The firefighters were training associates how to pump water from an alternate source when hydrants aren’t working or available.

GREENBELT

FARMERS MARKET

HEAVENLY WELL

ACUPUNCTURE • MASSAGE

FREEDOM REALTY

PROTEUS

College Park, MD

GREENBELT

NEW DEAL CAFE

Greenbelt, MD

CHOICE CLINICAL SERVICES

COOP

Kim Kash

The 2019 Greenbelt Farmers Market

Opens Sunday, May 12

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parking lot by The New Deal Café, Roosevelt Center.

For vendor schedules, sponsor info or to donate or volunteer, check out GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

Grateful thanks to our sponsors

Monthly Menu CORRECTION

The Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 Restaurant begins serving dinners at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday

Quality Health Care Right in Your Neighborhood

Same-Day Appointments • Most Insurances Accepted

Doctors Community Health System is dedicated to helping you maintain and improve your health. Our network of care has offices at convenient locations.

Doctors Community Practices at Bowie
(Primary Care)
4000 Mitchellville Road, Suites B216 and 422
Bowie, Maryland 20716
301-262-0020 and 301-262-9872

Doctors Community Practices at Crofton
(Primary Care and Family Medicine)
2191 Defense Highway, Suite 201
Crofton, Maryland 21114
410-451-9091

Doctors Community Practices at District Heights
(Primary Care and Family Medicine)
6400 Marlboro Pike
District Heights, Maryland 20747
301-736-7000

Doctors Community Practices at Laurel
(Primary Care and Diabetes Care)
13900 Baltimore Avenue
Laurel, Maryland 20707
301-725-5652

Doctors Community Practices at Riverdale
(Primary Care, Family Medicine and Endocrinology)
6502 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 100
Riverdale, Maryland 20737
301-927-0088

Doctors Community Practices at Temple Hills
(Primary Care and Family Medicine)
5859 Allentown Way
Temple Hills, Maryland 20728
240-563-1026

Metropolitan Medical Specialists
(Primary Care and Family Medicine)
8116 Good Luck Road, Suite 300
Lanham, Maryland 20706
240-241-7474

Health and Wellness Center
(Urgent Care Inside Safeway)
4101 Northview Drive
Bowie, Maryland 20716
301-383-2559

Our experienced and compassionate team will also support your overall health goals by streamlining your access to additional Doctors Community Health System programs: breast health, digestive disease care, orthopedic services, surgical services, diabetes care and many others.

Schedule an appointment today. Also, visit us at DCHweb.org.



Letters continued

in all four films, and fascist Italian dictator Benito Mussolini is also mocked in the films.

I am sponsoring this special showing for two reasons. First, I am a lifelong fan of The Three Stooges and believe You Nazty Spy deserves proper recognition and to be included on the National Film Registry. Second, this is my way of laughing in the face of the Neo-Nazi movement and anti-semitism.

In recent years, our country has experienced a rise in domestic terrorism – mass murders at places of worship of all faiths. We have seen the Nazi flag carried alongside the U.S. flag. This special film show is my small way of speaking out against the hatred and madness our country

is going through.

Come and laugh at Adolf Hitler, Nazi leader, anti-semite, racist hate-monger and “inspiration” of the neo-Nazi movement. And please nominate You Nazty Spy.

James William Thompson

LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW
Visually impaired may listen for free
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear
301-681-6636
No special equipment needed



DEBATE continued from page 1

each pair lists their claims and supporting evidence. Rebuttal speeches follow, in which debaters are able to respond to the other pair’s claims and explain why their team’s ideas are superior.

The Mshana-Ramirez team placed second, while Clarke and Johnson finished third.

The team attended the Greenbelt City Council meeting on April 23, where their accomplishments were recognized and applauded by the council and those in attendance.

Cesar Fortuna, the girls’ reading teacher and debate coach, said the students spent extra time outside of class reading news stories and policy papers to prepare for their arguments. This was Fortuna’s third year coaching the Greenbelt debate team.

“I had the great opportunity of working with these girls in my English class last year, so I kind of forced them to join the team,” Fortuna said jokingly.

The students competed on the varsity level, which demanded understanding of topics covered by the lower two levels – novice and junior varsity – as well as more complex topics that touched upon all sectors of life in Venezuela as well as the role of neighboring countries.

Originally, none of the four girls were on the varsity team. Fortuna sat down with the students and told them that if they wanted to join the national league, they would have to move up and compete on the varsity level.

Most of the girls also participate in other extracurricular activities, necessitating balance and diligence in the months leading up to Nationals.

“They took on the challenge and it’s been a lot of almost sleepless nights,” Fortuna said. “But all their hard work paid off.”

Ramirez, an eighth grader, began debating in sixth grade while looking for an extracurricular activity. Until this year, she was

on the junior varsity team.

Debating “really helps me, especially with my insecurity of speaking,” Ramirez told the council.

Mshana, also an eighth grader, joined debate in seventh grade. She was encouraged by Fortuna, her reading teacher at the time, and credited debate with developing her public speaking, textual analysis and international awareness.

“We talk about the relationships between U.S. and other nations. I had to pay attention to the news and to what was happening in the world so that I could talk about it in our debate rounds,” Mshana said. She won second speaker overall, an award presented based on the skill of the individual debater.

Johnson was not able to attend the council meeting but won fifth speaker at the tournament.

Clarke began debating over the summer during one of the camps offered by the Washington Urban Debate League, an affiliate of the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues serving over 40 middle and high schools across D.C. and Prince George’s County. The summer camp provides a crash course on the topics that will be argued throughout the debate season.

David Trigaux, the program director for the Washington Urban Debate League, also spoke at the meeting.

“Our mission is to work in schools [that] have a lack of opportunity,” Trigaux said. “As a former debater myself, I know the transformative power of the activity.”

While the four girls will be going on to high school next year, Fortuna hopes the excitement and experience surrounding the middle school debate team will propel them to even greater success next year.

Theresa Diffendal is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.

Beltsville Garden Club Plant Sale

The Beltsville Garden Club will host a second and final plant sale of the year this Saturday, May 11, from 8 to 11 a.m. at High Point High School in Beltsville.

Member vendors will sell the products of their horticultural skills and share their knowledge with customers who enjoy interesting and local plants.

The sale will benefit the James E. Duckworth School, which serves students with disabilities ages 5 through 21 from the communities of Adelphi, College Park, Hyattsville, Laurel, Beltsville and Mt. Rainier.

Be aware: the sale starts at 8 a.m. sharp, and many interesting plants disappear quickly.

Migratory Bird Walk At Patuxent Refuge

On Friday, May 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. the Patuxent Research Refuge will have a Migratory Bird Day bird walk. Join the walk to look for migrating birds. Binoculars will be provided. This program is for ages 10 and older. For more information visit fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent.

MARYLAND LYRIC OPERA

AN EVENING OF

Verdi

Excerpts from *Il Trovatore*,
La traviata, & *Rigoletto*

7:30PM | 2:00PM
May 18 | May 19

THE MARYLAND LYRIC
OPERA ORCHESTRA

Nayoung Ban | Daryl Freedman
Raquel Gonzalez | Yongxi Chen
Marco Cammarota | Javier Arrey
Louis Salemno, CONDUCTOR
Joan Sullivan Genthe
LIGHTING DESIGNER

TICKETS STARTING AT JUST \$25
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AN EVENING OF

Puccini

Excerpts from *La bohème*,
Madama Butterfly, & *Tosca*

THE MARYLAND LYRIC
OPERA ORCHESTRA

Seunghyeon Baek | Maria Natale
Youna Hartgraves | Mauricio Miranda
Catherine Martin | Yongxi Chen
Marco Cammarota
Louis Salemno, CONDUCTOR
Joan Sullivan Genthe
LIGHTING DESIGNER

7:30PM | 2:00PM
June 7 | June 9

KAY THEATRE
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park, MD

Happy Birthday John Henry Jones!

91 Years Young,

Greenbelt Salutes You

Budget 2019

Proposed Public Safety Budget Scrutinized, Reviewed by Council

by Matthew Arbach

The public safety part of the forthcoming Fiscal Year 2020 budget was under scrutiny at the Greenbelt City Council worksession on April 10. Several representatives were invited to inform the body: Greg Gigliotti, assistant chief of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD); Laura Kessler, team leader of Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Greenbelt Community Animal Response Team (CART) and Public Safety Advisory Committee; and Richard Bowers, Captain Gordon Pracht, Captain Mark Sagan and Lieutenants Tim White and Seung Lee from the Greenbelt Police Department. Public safety comprises 37.2 percent of the annual budget.

Gigliotti related that the main priorities of the annual GVFD budget are apparatus and station maintenance, with the city being responsible for equipment, and major repairs covered mostly by the county. Amounts not taken care of by the county are addressed with available funds mostly from fundraising and fund drives. GVFD holds yearly fundraisers that bring in roughly \$35,000 to 40,000 which is used for ongoing and daily needs.

Pressing capital improvements to the city-owned fire station are parking lot repaving, exterior masonry repair, interior ceiling, grid and grill/vent replacement and automated HVAC temperature and run/stop control system replacement. All these are county funded for the most part.

GVFD Treasurer Eddie Hughes said, “I would say 2020 expenses will generally be the same as 2019.” Any distinctions would be a new 2005 pumper at \$600,000 and replacement of the more than 10-year-old station pick-up and the chief’s vehicle at \$65,000.

A recent imperative is volunteer recruitment with the county covering all EMT and paramedic training. Gigliotti emphasized the daunting nature of this job and that it requires dedicated individuals.

CERT and CART, organizations which run a variety of training events, are city-affiliated and receive an annual budget of \$1,500, an amount which has been stable since both groups’ inceptions, said Kessler. Both groups use these funds to “purchase/repair needed equipment, pay for training costs and pay for materials used for public education,” she added.

CART has endeavored to finance a trailer, valued at \$22,000 fully stocked. A \$10,000 grant from the American Kennel Club was paired with \$12,000 from various fundraising. Said Kessler, “once some paperwork is finished, it will be delivered to Greenbelt and will become a permanent property of Greenbelt CART.”

Chief Bowers stated that of the proposed \$11,135,200 FY 2020 police department budget, \$9,872,200 would be provided by the city. The department also receives a \$450,000 grant from the State of Maryland, with most of the rest of revenue coming from citations from red-light and speed cameras.

Discussion concerned the recent \$45,000 purchase of the Prince George’s County Computer Aided Dispatch system which would allow swift coordination with all county police departments, along with available fire and medical services. A related matter was the recent hiring of an IT specialist who is tasked to work solely with the Greenbelt Police.

There was also a discussion of the need for more community outreach and officer diversity. Concerning the former, it was asserted that an invitation is always open at neighborhood events and meetings and that there is a need for a more personal relationship between residents and police. Concerning the latter, Bowers stressed that while diversity “was always on their mind,” the emphasis would be on “finding the best people.”

The meeting concluded with a lengthy discussion about the state of the Animal Control trailer, which shares a location with the police station. Much was said about its overcrowded conditions, insufficient office space and general noisy atmosphere. Michelle Touchet of Greenbelt W.A.G.S., herself an employee of the shelter, emphasized the need for improvements in windows, leaks and the resultant problems with proper heating and cooling. She praised the “dedicated, fantastic” staff and expressed willingness to help raise needed funds for building repairs and more comprehensive training. The general consensus was that the issue would require a concerted and detailed study to determine the best possible remedy, which may lead to the construction of a new facility.

Mayor Emmett Jordan ended the meeting by extolling “all the good things happening” in public safety.

Free Colorectal Cancer Screening Program

Doctors Community Hospital, 8100 Good Luck Road, North Building, 4th Floor, offers a program on colorectal cancer. Colon or colorectal cancer is often preventable and curable. Prince George’s County residents may qualify for a no-cost colonoscopy if they are age 50 to 75 or age 50 or younger with family histories of colorectal cancer and are uninsured or underinsured. An appointment is required. Call 301-552-7705 or visit DCHweb.org/prevention for more information.



PHOTO COURTESY COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Councilmember Judith F. Davis is among the 11 women named to the Prince George's County Commission for Women. The County Council approved the appointments unanimously at the May 7 meeting. From left: Denise C. McCain, Davis, Cassandra Freeman, Robbie W. Terry, Shantelle E. Coleman, Sharon J. Smith, Deborah C. Wilder, Judy Mickens-Murray, Beatrice M. Rodgers, Lanta Evans and Carolyn White Washington.

BUDGET continued from page 1

upon the department by modern times has required it, like other city services, to go high tech. The wealth of knowledge and skills required to sustain city operations has always been great, but modern technology and the great concern for sustainability desired by both the city council and departmental employees has made departmental operations far more complicated. The budget lists a wide variety of training programs to be attended by departmental employees.

Sterling and Martin demonstrated to council the results of one of the department’s latest projects, the development of an asset management system for preventive maintenance of streets. The department completed a comprehensive street condition evaluation using state-of-the-art video imagery. All city streets were evaluated and categorized by condition. Street data were provided to the consultant for both the Town of Berwyn Heights and Greenbelt using geographic information system (GIS) technology. Once completed, the imagery and data were analyzed and downloaded into a separate GIS layer.

Martin projected on a wall a map of the city showing all city streets in several different colors depending on their overall condition. Red dots indicated particularly bad areas, such as pavement breakup. In addition, the department staff can select a spot on a street and bring up an image of it in order to directly see what the problem is.

The department is also doing

a similar evaluation of city sidewalks and paths with University of Maryland interns gathering the needed data input by physically walking each walkway. A map of sidewalks was also projected for the council with asphalt pavement in black and concrete walks in gray and red dots identifying locations of deteriorated walks.

Councilmember Judith Davis asked Sterling if a similar evaluation of curbs and driveways could be done. He responded it would depend upon availability of funding and manpower.

Manpower

The department is not seeking an increase in the 57 full-time equivalent employees (full- and part-time), although Sterling told the council that pressures were increasing upon the department’s workload and more personnel would be needed in future years. He cited as factors causing the need for more employees to be the additional responsibilities of maintaining Greenbelt Station South Core right-of-ways and park areas, once they are accepted by the city for maintenance, and demands such as the Sustainable Maryland Certified Green Team and the no-spray pesticide policy which has created more manual labor to maintain parks.

Another concern is obtaining employees in a tight labor market. Sterling noted that the city was short three refuse collectors. That requires other city workers to fill in, preventing them from doing their assigned tasks and causing overtime.

The city has continuously

made available summertime jobs for teenagers in the department. Sterling said at one time he had to choose the six summer employees from a list of 60 applicants. Not now. “You apply and qualify, you get the job,” he said.

Sterling took special note of the help he received from the student interns. A variety of other people also volunteer or intern with the department. He welcomes the additional help provided.

Sustainability

Robles and Sterling reviewed the numerous efforts of the department to minimize the city’s impact on the environment. Several tables detailed the city’s efforts to recycle waste rather than take it to a landfill. The city continuously looks for new ways to reuse that which once was trashed. It also looks for ways to make its parks and grounds become more self-sustaining without the aid of chemicals. Fuel and energy consumption are closely monitored and are being reduced each year. City land is being naturalized with butterfly gardens and pollinator aids.

Numerous pages in the budget detail the various activities, goals and objectives and accomplishments of the department. Council reviewed the information page by page, occasionally making comments, asking questions or expressing additional needs. However, no concerns were expressed as to the amounts budgeted and no changes to the budget were proposed.

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery
April 19, 8:35 a.m., Buddy Attick Park. A man approached a walker from behind as he was walking down the lake path to the rear of the 8100 block of Lakecrest Drive. The man placed an unknown object to the walker's back and announced a robbery. He took cash from the walker's wallet and fled on foot.

Burglary
April 18, 6400 block Ivy Lane. A door lock assembly was damaged when force was used in an attempt to enter an office suite.

Vandalism
April 20, 9:04 a.m., 6600 block Springcrest Drive. A rear window of a residence was broken out.

Vehicle Crime
A 4-door white 2013 Hyundai with Virginia tags 26895K was taken from the 9300 block Edmonston Road on April 18.
A 1996 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV reported stolen November 26 from the 6000 block Greenbelt Road was recovered April 19 by New Carrollton police in the 6400 block Lamont Drive in New

Carrollton. The tags on the vehicle at the time of theft, Maryland 4DE6394, were not recovered and are still listed as stolen.
A 2005 Porsche Cayenne SUV reported stolen January 15 from the 7800 block Emily's Way was recovered April 18 by D.C. Metropolitan police on Irving Street N.E.
Three thefts occurred on April 19 after windows were broken to gain access. An in-dash stereo was taken in the 6200 block Springhill Drive, a purse was taken from the 6100 block Breeze-wood Drive and two pairs of sunglasses and a deep fryer from the 9200 block Edmonston Road.
Vandals broke out windows from five vehicles in the 6100 block Breezewood Drive and 9100 block Edmonston Road. An additional two windows were broken out on the same vehicle in the 5900 block Cherrywood Lane, which also had four tires slashed and paint scratched.
A car and motorcycle belonging to the same person in the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane was spray painted.

News Review Staff Looks Back, Forward, Invites New Members

by Cathie Meetre

The News Review recently got together out of the newsroom to reflect on a successful year of the News Review. Though not startling financially, it was a year of steady improvement in the newspaper's infrastructure, with more projects due to come on line in the future.
The event was replete with old faces and new. Editor Emerita Mary Lou Williamson and Editor Gary Childs epitomized, perhaps, the multiple generations of contributors that the paper has participating today, handing the torch forward as it has in the past. Kathleen McFarland, who did the Neighbors column for many years, was in attendance as well as long-time supporters and contributors Mary Moien, Dea and Bob Zugby, Diane Oberg and Sandy Lange. A newer generation of staff included Lesley Kash, Joan Marionni, Amy Hansen, Cathie Meetre, Jan Wolf, Pat Scully, Sylvia Lewis, Deanna Dawson, Tom Jones, Leigh Ellis and Stan Zirkin.
The food was great, the company terrific. Humor flowed and stories were shared. With the newspaper's schedule, in a given week, staff may see only the small group with whom they work directly. So proofers don't see the editorial staff and email processors don't meet the layout crew. The potluck was a great opportunity to cross these barriers and realize how much of a team effort the paper is.
The paper always welcomes new members. In particular, it is seeking individuals who would be willing to cover council stories – the council meetings and worksessions can be viewed on-line and don't necessarily require evening excursions. It also seeks those who wish to cover particular topics on an occasional basis, for example sports, arts, music, theater and dance. Of



GNR staff and partners gather in conversation. From left, around the table: Murray Zitver, Julie Rapp, Sandy Lange, Kathleen McFarland, Leslie Kash and Bob and Dee Zugby.

special interest is coverage for a neighborhood – especially those in Greenbelt East and West – to report on condo association meetings and neighborhood activities.
To chat with the editor or a member of staff about these opportunities and what it means to be a member of a worker cooperative, call 301-474-4131 on Tuesday afternoon (2 to 5 p.m.) or Tuesday evening (8 to 10 p.m.). Or email editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.
Remember, it takes a newspaper to make a city.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

ERHS, GAC, Combine Forces, Present "Declaration" on May 18

by Nyah Clay and Niya John

The Greenbelt Arts Center is partnering with Eleanor Roosevelt High School Drama Students to present Declaration, by Jonathan Dorf, on Saturday, May 18 at 7 p.m. The events of the play take place before, during, and after a fictional shooting at Eleanor Roosevelt. The one-act play will be followed by a post-show discussion.
After a year of student-led protests of gun violence in American schools following the February 14th Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School massacre in Parkland, Florida that took the lives of 14 students and three staff members, American students continue to voice concerns of their safety in and out of school. However, despite the national platform students have built, many still struggle to find a safe space to use their voice within their own communities.
Among these students is Eleanor Roosevelt High School junior, Niya John. As an advocate for stricter gun laws in the U.S., John helped organize a school-wide walkout and rally in 2018, following the Parkland massacre. Earlier this year, with the help of the ERHS drama students, and ERHS seniors Nyah Clay as co-director and Grace Harness as set construction lead, John directed the one act play "Declaration" by Jonathan Dorf.
The students opened the play at the school on the one-year an-

niversary of the Parkland shooting. A post-show discussion occurred each night to provide the audience of ERHS students, community members, and local stakeholders the opportunity to share their views on the production and the wider issues of school shootings and gun control.
John and her team of students hope to open a discussion regarding the state of gun control in the U.S. and provide the community a safe space to express themselves.
Nyah Clay and Niya John are students at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.



From left: Amy Lepore, Gabriela Holzer, Vanessa Martin, Victoria Simmons, Rebekah Pase, Zion Watkins, and Dominique Hart (center floor) perform Declaration at ERHS in February.

Free Screening Of Beyond Silence
On Friday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m., Hope Lutheran Church, Guilford Drive in College Park presents Beyond Silence. Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, Beyond Silence tells the story of the devoted daughter of hearing-impaired parents.
Admissions and refreshments are free. For more information visit hopecp.org or call 301-927-5508.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, May 16, 2019

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

A. GHI Special Open Session Meeting – begins at 7.00 p.m.

- Approve Motion to hold an Executive Session Meeting on May 16, 2019

B. GHI Executive Session – begins after the GHI Special Open Session Meeting adjourns

- Approve minutes of the Executive Session meeting held on April 18, 2019
- Consider the terms and conditions of the following contracts in the negotiation stage:
 - 2019 Contract for Parking Lot Repairs – second reading
 - Contract for Leasing a Copier Machine – first reading
 - Contract for 2019 Underground Utility Repairs and Drainage Improvements – first reading
 - Contract for Repair/Replacement of the Chimney on the Administration Building – first reading
- Request by a potential member for an exception to GHI's Membership Selection Criteria Policy
- Member financial matters
- Item of information: a rental permit granted to a member

C. GHI Open Session Meeting – begins after GHI Executive Session Meeting adjourns

- Certification of Election, Chair, N&E Committee
- Board Re-organization and Election of officers
- Code of Ethics Acknowledgement
- Approve Minutes of Special Open Session Meeting Held on April 18, 2019
- Approve Minutes of Open Session Meeting Held on April 18, 2019
- Appointment of Member Complaint Panels
- Designation of GDC Stockholders
- Review Board Meeting Procedures
- Proposed Meeting Dates during the New Board Term
- Review Member Comments re: Proposed Design Help/Review Process and Revised Rules for Privacy Screens
- Proposal for Applying Wood Chips for Landscape Improvement in a Common Area
- Proposed Letter to the Chair, P.G. County Council re: Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone for Greenbelt
- Proposed Revisions to Sub-lease Policy
- Request for a Donation by the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department
- Invitation from the City of Greenbelt to Participate in Peace Month Activities

To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us bv phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Regular Board meetings are open to Members

For more information, visit our website: www.ghi.coop

State Legislators to Review 2019 for Democratic Club

by Konrad Herling

To learn more about what happened with key legislation during the recently concluded session in Annapolis, come to the Greenbriar Community Building on Friday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club present a summary report from the District 22 legislative team of Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Anne Healey, Alonzo Washington and Tawanna Gaines. Highlights include the \$15/hour minimum wage bill passed over Governor Larry Hogan’s veto, efforts to pass affordable housing legislation that brought in \$40 million in investment, as well as the Clean Energy Jobs Act that will help incentivize the development of solar roof energy and increase the renewable electricity standard to 50 percent of the total grid by 2030.

The late Speaker of the House of Delegates, Michael Busch, was successful in passing a bill establishing five oyster sanctuaries, but the bill was vetoed by Governor Hogan. Shortly following the governor’s veto, it was overridden in a dramatic victory for Busch. Senator Pinsky was the key sponsor in the Senate. Another bill that was passed, vetoed by the governor and then overridden, concerned determining start dates for the school year. County school districts will now be able to determine when the school year will begin, contrary to the governor’s executive order that prohibited schools from beginning the school year before Labor Day. Among key pieces of legislation not passed was the End of Life Option Act, otherwise known as Death with Dignity, which

would have provided an individual access to lethal medication to terminate pain and his or her life after having secured the findings by two doctors that the individual would die within six months. Additionally, legislation that would monitor the impact of animal feeding operations failed to make it out of committee. As always, the Eleanor & Roosevelt Democratic Club’s format provides an opportunity for a question and answer period. After the meeting, all are invited to share in good food and conversation. Those willing to bring food or drinks or to make a contribution to help cover the cost of food should call 202-321-4027. For more information, visit the club online at rooseveltclub.com or on Facebook or call Nicole Williams, club president, at 202-321-4207.

Presentations, Proclamations At City Council Meeting

by Kathleen Gallagher

Prior to reaching the business portion of its April 23 meeting agenda, the Greenbelt City Council recognized Older Americans Month and National Poetry Month and received presentations from Higher Achievement, an organization that will be working with sixth- and seventh-grade students at Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) in the coming academic year, and the debate team at GMS.

May is Older Americans Month, with a theme this year of Connect, Create and Contribute. Mayor Emmett Jordan presented a proclamation to Marti Galvin, president of the Golden Age Club, and Rebekah Sutfin, therapeutic recreation supervisor, who were accompanied by Kathleen McFarland, Jeannette Grotke, John Henry Jones, Cathy Brannan and Mame Ellis. The mayor also recognized April as National Poetry Month, as sponsored by the Academy of American Poets, and read a poem by Lynn Poirier called Prayer for the Trees Before a Great Storm.

Higher Achievement

Higher Achievement, an organization focusing on enrichment programs for middle school students, has begun to work with the Prince George’s County Public Schools. It currently serves Baltimore and Washington, D.C., among others, and will launch a program this summer at GMS, the first school to be chosen in the county.

Thalia Washington, executive director, gave a presentation on the program, saying it is designed to serve students who may need extra academic support, possibly receive reduced-cost meals at school, and would likely be the first college graduates in their family. Higher Achievement works on the premise that it is the middle school years that make or break a student’s later success in school.

The program is year-round and has three components. At GMS, the program will start with the six-week Summer Academy

in late June and enroll a cohort of 60 students, including rising sixth and seventh graders. According to the program literature, the coursework includes academic subjects, field trips and a college visit. The second component is the Afterschool Academy, which runs from October through May and includes homework help and academic mentoring three days per week. The third component, High School Placement, helps students to advance to top high school programs. Parents should contact the principal’s office at the school if they might be interested.

GMS Debaters

The Greenbelt Middle School Debate Team won a number of awards at the Washington Urban Debate League Winter Classic Tournament in January and was subsequently named to participate in the first national middle school tournament on April 13 and 14. Although they did not come in first, team members Isabel Ramirez and Chloe Mshana placed second overall at the nationals while Alexandra Clarke and Christione Johnson took third place. Two also won speaker awards: Mshana and Johnson placed second and fifth, respectively.

All but Johnson attended the council meeting, together with their faculty sponsor and coach Cesar Fortuna and David Trigaux, program director for the Washington Urban Debate League. When the mayor complimented them on their performance, Fortuna explained they had started at novice level only two years ago and in 2018 were classified as novice or and junior varsity. He told them in December that to compete in the nationals they would have to move up to varsity. Even though most varsity debaters are juniors or seniors in high school, the middle-schoolers took on the challenge and all the work it entailed. Councilmember Judith Davis also congratulated them on having defeated the boys.

LIGGINS continued from page 1

Her skills in both business marketing and nonprofit management led her to work in education nonprofit, where she found joy. In January, Greenbelt City Manager Nicole Ard told a News Review reporter, “We think we have the best person for Greenbelt. She’s bringing a lot of expertise in different areas.” Liggins said, “A lot of the work I did working in the nonprofit sector was really about building corporate partnerships with various New York companies, but I also managed corporate partnerships between New York public schools and business, helping them connect students to the working world.” After being the liaison between two very important sectors in New York City, she realized the power of using business as a force for good. This led her to work for an economic development organization, Empire State Development. Liggins described her journey thus far as sort of a natural progression.

A former New York mentor and colleague of Liggins, Simone Bethune, said when Liggins first came on board, she was “really cooperative. She grabbed on pretty quickly to things that we needed to update or make more efficient.” Liggins said that her career in New York was a very informative experience for her. “It was my first time working in government and it was my first time understanding how much government plays a role in providing services to the community, residents and businesses,” she said. This realization was her turning point and Greenbelt became the next stop on her journey to help change the world. “I like starting new things and being able to come in and be a part of something at a very grassroots level is really exciting,” she said. Mayor Emmett Jordan said establishing an economic development program has always been a goal of his since stepping into office. “There’s been a little bit of

dialogue about the position, and there are different ideas due to the city being divided by two major highways,” he said. “So if you talk to people from different parts of town you’ll have different perceptions.” Liggins said she loves to be of service, whether that is helping facilitate or introduce a business person to someone in the county government, but realizes the job comes with its challenges. She said the first step is listening to everyone’s needs. Although people will have different approaches for initiating change, Liggins is focused on making balanced decisions while incorporating everyone’s feedback. Jordan said, “To a large extent, it’s about building relationships. Just kind of getting out there, knowing and working closely with the small businesses.” Liggins’ most recent presentation during the Fiscal Year 2020 budget worksession emphasized the importance of Greenbelt’s legacy. In her notes, she wrote

the historical presence is “part of what makes it a unique place to live, work, play.” She has three main objectives. First, she stressed the significance of developing a foundation for this new program based on a strategic plan to meet the city’s goal. Secondly, she believes that creating marketing and business tools will help current Greenbelt businesses. Lastly, Liggins wants technical assistance for small businesses looking to start or expand. Liggins plans to remain focused on community cooperation, inclusiveness, unique cultural history and promoting the City of Greenbelt. “Change can be scary,” Liggins said. “We [leaders of Greenbelt] all realize that times are changing and know that we have to evolve in some ways with those times.” *Lauren Moses is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.*

STOP the Train: Support the NO BUILD Alternative Green Man Festival

Saturday May 11 (10 AM to 6 PM) and Sunday May 12 (11 AM to 5 PM)
Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt MD

We need everyone that opposes the SC Maglev train project to visit our table at the Green Man Festival to sign and add comments to a prepared letter. We will mail the letters to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and officials. These new letters address **new details** in MTA’s Final Alternatives Report, which are of concern. Everyone can sign this letter even those that have already signed a letter. The public is allowed to comment on the new details. We need as many letters as possible.

The new infrastructure to support the high-speed trains is **massive** and will forever change our communities. According to the Report, 2 to 6 trains per hour would be needed. The project will become a burden on Maryland taxpayers. The project will reduce our quality of life, lower property values and destroy precious wildlife habitat.

Brian and Donna Almquist
Greenbelt Advocates for Environmental and Social Justice
Contact us at GreenbeltAdvocates.esj@gmail.com

Beltway Plaza Fights Retail Closures with Proposals For Renovation, Redevelopment and Rejuvenation

by Nora Eckert



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOLLY PORTER

Quantum Companies submitted a master redevelopment plan during a January meeting of the Advisory Planning Board.

It's 7:45 p.m. on a Saturday, and the Beltway Plaza Mall in Greenbelt is bustling. A sweet smell wafts out of Heaven's Bakery. The AMC Academy 8 movie theater is packed. A young boy in a red Spiderman shirt twirls past a vacant store with chains blocking its entrance, before his mom yanks him close.

That empty store, and the For Lease signs visible throughout the plaza, are symptoms of a problem that's been affecting malls across the nation. Neighborhood and community shopping center vacancies hit a four-year high in 2018, according to Real Estate Solutions, an analytics company. The trend is predicted to continue, with financial forecasts from Credit Suisse indicating 20 to 25 percent of U.S. malls will close in the next three years.

Quantum Companies, which owns the mall, has a plan to turn the institution that has been part of Greenbelt for over five decades into a community destination. This conceptual redevelopment was approved by Greenbelt's City Council in March, and will include adding housing, retail and office space, while aiming to improve the aesthetics of the entire development.

The renovation is part of a growing trend of malls converting their spaces into a mix of retail and living, said Molly Porter, Greenbelt's community planner. The city will join examples of similar renovations in Bethesda, Fairfax and Gaithersburg.

"I think there's a large trend, kind of the conversion of a traditional mall, such as Beltway Plaza, into a town center ... mak-

ing it less of an indoor shopping experience to more of an outdoor, indoor component with housing. There are several projects within the region that have gone that way," Porter said.

Quantum executives said the mall's recent performance and store closings are in line with national averages.

"In terms of store closures, our experience has been similar to that of other shopping centers of our size due to bankruptcies, downsizing, consolidation and changing retail conditions," Kap Kapastin, general counsel of Quantum Companies, wrote

in a message. Kapastin declined to provide any data on store closures in the mall, and said no one at the company collects this information.

Councilmember Colin Byrd, who has been a resident of the city his entire life, has many memories at the mall. He remembers going to Silver Diner when he was young – he recommends the waffles and chicken sausage – or shopping for the latest shoes at Foot Locker.

He said the plaza is an integral part of the community.

"It, for better or for worse, is certainly a part of the brand of

the city. Because it's such a large piece of property, I do think people will make judgments, positive or negative, about the city based on the perceived quality of that particular mall," Byrd said.

Even if these renovations are successful in keeping the mall afloat, Byrd wants to ensure the community's concerns are considered, such as the issue of potential increases in rent for those currently living in the area.

Porter also said she's heard concerns regarding traffic density and rent pricing from community and councilmembers.

Quantum declined to provide more details on the project other than it will take between five to 20 years and involve a considerable cost. Kapastin added that they do not project the displacement of any of the plaza's 100 existing stores.

Several store owners declined to comment for this story, some saying they were not aware of the proposed renovations.

Despite community and councilmembers' concerns, Byrd is optimistic about the project. It's a development he said exemplifies the tenacity of the city.

"I think it reflects the consistency and the resilience and the community spirit of the city that something that is a pillar of the city is not going to ultimately be ignored," he said. "There's been talk of the mall being a dying mall. I don't see it that way."

Nora Eckert is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.



PHOTO BY STEVE BUCCA

Wood hyacinth (Spanish Bluebell) is blooming along Hanover Parkway.



PHOTO BY MARY MURCHISON-EDWARDS

A protective Canada Goose parent looks after goslings on May 2.



The 15th Annual Greenbelt Green Man Festival

May 11th and 12th

Free All day! On the Roosevelt Center Plaza

This year we honor our Mother Earth
and together Gaia and the Green Man say,

"We Are One"

The Green Man festival is a project of CHEARS, the CHesapeake Education Arts and Research Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to the health of all who share the Chesapeake watershed environment. We gratefully acknowledge help from the City of Greenbelt, and funds from the Friends Meeting.

Farmers Market Reopens Sunday Bringing Bounty Back to Greenbelt

by Cathie Meetre

A new Greenbelt Farmers Market season is coming up, and while the weather for opening day, Sunday, May 12, is not forecast (at the time of writing) to be great, what's a mere spring shower to a populace clamoring for products straight from the farm? Bring an umbrella and reusable shopping bags and join the fun. The market is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with flute music from Naomi Littlefield and Greenbelt's favorite vendors back in action. There are more vendors than ever – with some visiting on a rotating basis. Descriptions, links and schedules are available on the website GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org. By clicking the “At The Market” tab and selecting 2019 vendors.

The most important new face is of Market Master Frances Ippoliti. She's stepping into the yeti-sized shoes of Nancy Solomon, who was market master for a decade. Ippoliti is energetic and resourceful with a wide range of experiences behind her, here and abroad, and Solomon has been generous in passing on the accumulated wisdom of her time in harness. Board members stand ready to offer support as Ippoliti learns the ropes, so a successful first day is anticipated. The first day of the market is the most hectic of the season – with health and fire inspections scheduled and vendors finding their locations and setting up equipment that's been sitting idle for months. There's much to do but it's fun to see it all come together after months of planning.

New Vendors

There are several vendor newcomers as well as almost all last year's vendors returning. We've squeezed in a couple of extra slots and alternated vendors to offer a wider range of products and a changing palette for each week. Hasting His Harvest is a newbie too, with herbal seasonings and plant-based meat substitutes to support a vegan diet. We have two seasonings vendors, Nativo (which joined us late last season) and freshman vendor Pepperly Love. Piquant indeed! Tag Team Kitchen's pizza kits are sure to be a family favorite for a quick and delicious meal, while Real Food, Real Tasty creates sauces that will set taste-buds a-tingle. Untainted, with its fastidiously-made body butters

and scrubs, complements long-time favorite Mystic Soaps.

Returning Vendors

Roy and RT and El Piquin will be serving up delicacies from their respective cultures – Indonesian curry and South-of-the-Border-inspired crêpes and tacos. Ok, so crêpes are French – but that's south of Belgium, right?

Veggies are in abundance – Dicot Farms, Pleitez, Shlagel Farms, Patty's Garden, Woodland Harvest and Pat Hochmuth Farms will have their early crops and last-season tubers and gourds. Fruits are well represented by Three Springs – and for lovers of the tasty and culinarily invaluable saprophyte (saprophytiacs?), Kings Mushrooms will now be at the market every week during the season with several exotic varieties and delicious mushroom soup to boot. Patty's Garden and Jack Creek Plants have spring bedding plants ready to go (now the danger of frost is past) – and Glade Link will join the market with more plants and fabulous flowers once blooms are sufficient.

Other food groups are also well-represented. Ferguson Family Farms is a long-time market favorite back for its 11th season and Lynne Ferguson will have her tender, farm raised meat, free-range eggs and tasty sausages. Salmon vendor Two Oceans will be there to represent the forces of fish, while wineries Great Shoals and Elk Run alternate to go for the grape.

The market wouldn't be itself without a cup of Zeke's to fortify the shopper, plus baked goods and sweet treats from Stone Hearth, Heavenly-Created Desserts and I Confect. Let it be said, coffee goes really well

with Simple Pleasures ice cream.

In a pickle or a jam? Then Number One Sons and Martha's Jams and Jellies are the go-to solution. Artisan pickles and home-made jam are a perfect match to peanut butter. Not at the same time, of course.

SNAP and WIC

SNAP and WIC are back, though in a slightly different form – with direct support from the county for its administration. Support includes outreach to enable more local SNAP recipients to benefit from the market and hands-on presence at the market.

Thanks to All

The Farmers Market is grateful to the individuals who have donated to help GFM keep its place in Greenbelt's heart: Velma Kahn, Bill Norwood, Lynn McKee and J Davis. It thanks the local organizations who sponsor. Their contributions help to defray the cost of insurance, materials, advertising and all the little things that add up fast. Kudos to Choice Clinical, New Deal Café, Greenbelt Co-op, Old Greenbelt Theatre, Freedom Realty, Proteus Cycles, Heavenly Well Acupuncture, Kim Kash and The Greenbelt Community Foundation for their foresight and generosity. Grateful thanks to the volunteers who return year after year and to the board members who shoulder a lot of work to grace the city with this market.



Volunteers

Every week involves about nine individuals in a variety of roles at the market itself, and off-market activities are available to allow volunteers to assist at other times. Volunteers set up and take down market equipment and staff the booth. The former requires the physical ability to schlep boxes and tents and a hatchback or pickup vehicle is helpful but not required. Helping at the booth requires a smiley presence and the ability to click a counter. Volunteering at the market is an acceptable service role for high school graduation.

For more information, choose the Volunteers tab on greenbeltfarmersmarket.org.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANCES IPPOLITI



Frances Ippoliti is ready to run the show every Sunday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. as the Greenbelt Farmer's Market's new Market Master. She is assuming the role held by Nancy Solomon who ran the market for most of its existence.

GES Spring Fair



Students make May Day flower baskets with staff from the Greenbelt Museum at the Greenbelt Elementary School Spring Fair on Saturday, May 4.



Members of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department chat to visitors at the Spring Fair.

- Photos by Christine Doran

City Notes

Building maintenance started working with the assisting contractor on a new air ventilation system in the kiln room at the Community Center.

Rain storm flooding required clean-up work at the Community Center, the pool and the theater.

Refuse/recycling collected 31.29 tons of refuse and 12.79 tons of recyclable material. Recycling staff organized an Electronics Recycling, Styrofoam and Paint Recycling event, followed by sorting and breaking down Styrofoam.

A composting power point presentation for middle schoolers was created and a composting presentation for Cub Scouts.

Mom's Morning Out preschoolers enjoyed lots of time outdoors. A science unit featured plant and animal life cycles.

A Girl Scout troop visited the Aquatic & Fitness Center to complete their unit swim merit badge.

Arts staff hosted Greenbelt Elementary School second graders for dance and fiber arts workshops through the Artward Bound program.



PHOTO BY GINA MAI DENN

Participants made pottery mugs at the Art Drop-in at the Community Center on May 5.

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